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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT

In re Patent Application of:

Docket No.: 2041219-0005

James L. LEWIS, JR., et al.

Serial No.: 10/616,750

Group Art Unit: 1725

Confirmation No.: 2336

Filed: July 10, 2003

Examiner: Ing-Hour LIN

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ASSISTING REMOVAL OF SAND MOLDINGS For:

FROM CASTINGS

United States Patent and Trademark Office Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Amendment Randolph Building 401 Dulany Street Alexandria, VA 22314

REPLY AND AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111

Sir:

In response to the Non-Final Office Action mailed May 1, 2006 ("Office Action"), Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application in view of the following Amendments and/or Remarks.

- Amendments to the claims are reflected in the Listing of Claims that begins at page 2
- Remarks begin at page 10
- Conclusions are set forth at page 17

Applicants believe that no extensions of time are required at this time, but if extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 23-1951 (McGuireWoods). Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to the same Deposit Account.